

A trivia quiz for collectors of paper money

By Roger Boye

Here's a short quiz on everyone's favorite "collectible"—paper money. As usual, answers are at the end.

1. True or false: The dollar sign appears on all U.S. currency except the \$1.

2. The Treasury seal—printed in green ink on front sides of newly issued Federal Reserve notes—depicts a scales and key. What do they represent?

3. True or false: A \$1,000 bill is the largest ever made by Uncle Sam.

4. The paper for modern-day U.S. currency contains [a] wood pulp, [b] wood pulp and plastic, [c] linen and cotton, or [d] none of these.

5. The federal government printed nearly 6.2 billion Federal Reserve notes during 1985, with \$1 bills comprising nearly half of the total. Which denomination placed second?

6. Worldwide last year, 140 countries issued about 40 billion pieces of currency. Which country made most?

7. A stack of one million \$1 bills would stretch [a] six feet, [b] to the top of a four-story building, [c] at least 25 percent of the way up the Sears Tower, or [d] to the top of the Sears Tower.

8. True or false: Uncle Sam waited until the Civil War to issue paper money under the U.S. Constitution.

9. Which two men depicted on modern-day U.S. currency never were president?

10. True or false: Some \$1 bills mark the November, 1963, assassination of President Kennedy by carrying a large "K," "Dallas, Texas," an "11" and "1963."

Answers:

1. False. The value of all modern-day bills is spelled out in words.

2. Scales—justice; key—official authority.

3. False. At one time, the government also produced \$5,000 and \$10,000 bills for general circulation and \$100,000 bills for Federal Reserve banks.

4. C.

5. \$20, with production of about 1.5 billion bills.

6. China accounted for 25 percent of the total.

7. C.

8. True. Paper money printed by commercial banks and coinage served the needs of business before then.

9. Alexander Hamilton on the \$10 and Benjamin Franklin on the \$100.

10. False. The government issued about 95 million \$1 bills with that information, but "1963" was the series year, and "K," "11" and "Dallas, Texas" identified the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas.